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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION
Field Service Branch
State College, New Mexico
April 12, 1946

A C A F A R M N E W S

NO. 185

MARKET YOUR WHEAT SO OTHERS MAY LIVE

Pleas of U. S. leaders are being directed to farmers with wheat to sell these days because, unless farmers will market their wheat, this nation cannot do its full part in preventing starvation abroad. These pleas echo those of the millions of people in other lands who must have food if they are to maintain life in their bodies during the critical months ahead.

Wheat cannot fight against famine if it remains in the farmer's bin or in commercial storage. The Department of Agriculture reports that U. S. shipments of wheat have fallen behind goals with the wheat export goal for the January-March period 112 million bushels, shipments were about 12 million bushels short.

MARKET WHEAT NOW; SELECT PRICE LATER

Producers who now are holding their wheat for price or income reasons can deliver their wheat into the famine fight and request settlement at the market price on any later date they may elect before March 31, 1947.

The Department of Agriculture has made this offer to speed the movement of wheat off the farms for the relief of starving people in other lands and to eliminate two of the major reasons voiced by farmers for not delivering their wheat in this period of greatest need for it. Producers who select a market price on or after January 1, 1947 for wheat delivered to the Commodity Credit Corporation may report their payment under this program for income tax purposes as income received in 1947. Producers who want to see what prices are going to do can deliver their wheat now and select settlement at the market price on any date subsequent to the date on which they made the selection.

SURVEY INCREASES HOOVER'S CONCERN

Herbert Hoover told an International Food Conference in London that his survey of hunger has increased his anxiety regarding the world food crisis. "Hunger sits at the table trice daily in hundreds of millions of homes", he said, "and the spectre of possible starvation haunts equally the halls of government and squalid hovels in the ruins of war...." "If Europe is to have a future, something must be done about the children. Unless they are better fed, many will die and others will grow up with stunted bodies and distorted minds."

Hoover added that UNRRA covers less than 30 percent of the people from the Channel to the Russian border who are short of food. Whether nations buy their food or get it on charity or from occupation armies, they are drawing on the common stock and are competing with each other for supplies, he said.

VETS GET PRIORITIES ON FARM MACHINERY

Veterans obtained more than 60,000 preference certificates in February for purchase of new farm machinery and equipment, in contrast to the 751 issued them in July 1945, and the 54,661 issued them in January 1946. Most frequently requested items were tractors, plows, harrows and cultivators. With production of most essential items low during February due to work interruptions in steel plants and work stoppages in farm machinery manufacturing plants, veterans found their preference certificates handy as they sought scarce equipment. The certificates are issued through county ACA committees.

(MORE)

OREGON FARMER BECOMES UNDERSECRETARY OF USDA

N. E. Dodd, Oregon farmer-stockman, last week became Undersecretary of Agriculture, climaxing a rise to prominence in agricultural administration which began in 1933 with his selection as a member of the first AAA committee in his local community in Baker county.

Ed Dodd served successively as community committeeman, county committee chairman, chairman of the State Corn-hog Board of Review and State AAA chairman in Oregon. In 1938 he went to Washington, D. C. as Assistant Director of the Western AAA Region, and became Regional Director in 1939. Made Chief of AAA in 1943, Dodd became Director of the Field Service Branch of the Production and Marketing Administration when AAA was consolidated into P&MA in August 1945.

Born in Iowa, Dodd went to Eastern Oregon in 1900, where he raises wheat and Hereford cattle on a 2,000 acre ranch. A strong advocate of farmer-administration of federal agricultural programs, Dodd has become an authority on farm problems throughout the Nation since assuming regional and national responsibilities. Dodd succeeds John B. Hutson, who resigned from the Department of Agriculture to join the executive staff of the United Nations.

In another departmental shift, a key position went to a New Mexican, Jesse B. Gilmer, who was named deputy PMA administrator and vice-president of the Commodity Credit Corporation. Gilmer, a graduate of New Mexico A. and M. college in 1934, originally went to work for the Department of Agriculture as an agent of the Farm Security Administration.

(MORE)

1946 FARM PLAN SIGN-UP

Reports from counties indicate that the sign-up of 1946 Farm Plan Sheets is progressing satisfactorily in substantially all counties. In order that all producers may know of the closing date and have the opportunity of signing, it is suggested that the attached News Release be completed and given to all local papers.

FARM SHORTS

Potatoes are being used as a substitute for wheat by many housewives in their efforts to conserve wheat for starving people abroad.

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Secretary of Agriculture Anderson warns that inflated farm land prices spell disaster for farmers and that valuing farm land on the strength of a few boom years is folly.

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Farm real estate values rose 13 percent in the 12 months ending March 1, 1946 — 7 percent in the last four months -- and now stand 71 percent above the 1935-39 level. Average increase of real estate values in New Mexico was 86 percent since 1935-39 base period.

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Cattle numbers have decreased in North America and Europe and increased in the Soviet Union since the beginning of 1945, the USDA reports, with the drop in North American numbers placed at 2 million and the European decrease at 6 million.

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Since cattle depend more upon pastures and roughage, their numbers will be less affected by the world grain and feed shortage than will hogs and poultry.

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SUGGESTED NEWS RELEASE

May 1 marks the last day _____county farmers and ranchers can fill out a Farm Plan Sheet to cooperate in the 1946 Agricultural Conservation Program, _____county A.C.A. Chairman stated today.

_____urged farmers and ranchers to stop at the county A.C.A. office in _____as soon as possible to sign a Farm Plan Sheet for their farm or ranch, if they have not done so already.

Funds have been allocated to each county in the State to be used in helping farmers and ranchers carry out conservation practices _____ said. In order to keep expenditures within the county budget, all practices must receive prior approval of the county committee.